



News Release

USDA Forest Service
Cibola National Forest and Grasslands
Mountainair Ranger District
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For Immediate Release

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Update #4 **Successful Day for Firefighters in** **The Manzano Mountains**

Mountainair, NM - June 3, 2013, 5:45pm: Twenty four (24) hours after a severe lightning storm passed over the Manzano and Gallinas Mountains, 4 fires have been found and are out or being lined and mopped up. All 4 fires were detected on the Manzano Unit of the Mountainair Ranger District. No fires were detected on the Gallinas Unit.

The West Manzano Fire, which was found yesterday afternoon, was called out midafternoon today. The Bosque Fire, which was found at approximately 10am this morning was lined, mopped up and has also been called out.

Smoke Jumpers and Single Engine Air Tankers (SEAT's) were deployed shortly after detection of the Pack Trail Fire this morning. Eight (8) smokejumpers were dropped on this fire and will remain on the fire until it is contained and controlled. This fire is approximately 2/10th of an acre and is located in an extremely steep and rugged area of the Manzano Mountain Wilderness.

Two (2) smoke jumpers were dropped over the Spruce Spring Fire, which was detected this afternoon. This fire is a single snag in the area around Gallo Peak and Spruce Spring Trail. The 2 smoke jumpers will also remain on this fire until it is contained and controlled.

Mike McDonnell, Mountainair District Assistant Fire Management Officer, stated "Due to a lot of hard work by fire fighters, support personnel and the public, we believe we've dodged a bullet today, but we know there is the possibility of fires popping up for days to come after the lightning we experienced yesterday. We will continue with extra patrols and have brought in additional severity resources to assist with all initial attack efforts."

All public is asked to use extreme caution when visiting the National Forest. Please be aware, the Mountainair Ranger District will be going into Stage 3, Partial Forest Closure on Monday, June 10. For more information call Arlene Perea or the Mountainair Ranger District at 505-847-2990.

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